

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1173

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Ralph Illges on being named 2014 Volunteer of the Year by the Robertson County Chamber of Commerce.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Illges of Silver Spring Capital is one such estimable person who was recently named 2014 Volunteer of the Year by the Robertson County Chamber of Commerce for his many contributions to the Chamber and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Illges has served on the Robertson County Chamber of Commerce's board of directors since 2005 and rendered astute service as its chair in 2012-2013; and

WHEREAS, he is one of the most faithful board members and has attended countless after-hours, board, and executive committee meetings, Lunch & Learns, and ribbon cuttings; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Illges possesses a keen acumen relative to budget and financial issues and has given valuable advice to the Chamber as it has grown and evolved over the past eight years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Illges is perhaps known in the community for his organizational talent and proficient service as coordinating chair for the annual Christmas parade, which earned him the sobriquet "Parade Czar"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Illges managed this difficult and often chaotic task with ease for a number of years but will now hand over his czardom to new blood, having set a high standard that will be difficult to match; and

WHEREAS, as chair of the Chamber-initiated Robertson County Community Foundation, Ralph Illges facilitated the growth of numerous non-profit and charitable causes in the community; and

WHEREAS, he serves on the Robertson County Economic Development Board and invests many hours of his time into the future growth and development of the local economy; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many civic and Chamber duties, Mr. Illges is a Sunday school teacher at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Cross Plains and is the beloved Mr. Ralph to hundreds of pre-kindergarten students at Bransford Elementary School, where he has read to students for years; and

WHEREAS, an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, Ralph Illges epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Illges is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Ralph Illges on being named 2014 Volunteer of the Year by the Robertson County Chamber of Commerce and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.